Infiltration along Bhutan Border

2231. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Centre mulls force on Bhutan border" as reported in the Statesman dated the 30th January,2002;

(b) if so, whether the Indian insurgents have set up their base in Bhutan and creating problemsf rom West Bengal and Assam borders.

(c) if so, the facts thereof and whether Government have deployed more forces/strengthened its borders with Bhutan to check infiltration; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir. Government is aware of a news-item captioned "Centre mulls force on Bhutan border" which appeared in the Statesman dated the 30th December, 2002.

(b) to (d) Reports of Indian Insurgent groups like United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA), National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB) and Kamtapuri Liberation Organisation (KLO) setting up their camps in Bhutan and launching subversive activities across the indian border in North Bengal and Assam from these camps have been received by Government from time to time. Government has decided in principle to deploy a Border Guarding Force along this border to curb the movement of Indian insurgent groups using Bhutan as a base/sanctuary.

Request for Amending Article 371 by Karnataka

2232. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka Government have sought amendment to Article 371 of the Constitution to provide special reservations in employment and education for backward areas of the State;

(b) if so, whether the Government have rejected the proposal;

(c) whether amendments were made in Article 371 to provide special